

## LIBRARY AUTHORITY AND LIBRARY COMMITTEE



## INTRODUCTION

Library is a social institution charged with the function of preserving and disseminating human culture and civilization contained in the books. It is one of the important platform to encourage growth and development in the future. it is essential for a democratic set-up. A library is an institution by the society ,for the society & of the society. As such it must run on the sound line so that it becomes a model for all the members of the society.

## HISTORY

India, in the early period of history ,though culturally was much advanced than even the modern advance countries of the west like the U.K and the U.S.A., yet the library practices and techniques of the modern age were absent .western practices have very much influenced the modern library practices of india.

One of these practices is the **library government by committee system.**

## LIBRARY AUTHORITY VS LIBRARY COMMITTEE

- The word 'Authority' Implies a person having power to do something. he is powerful enough since he has been authorized by a competent agency to do certain job, such as boards of Trustees, Library Authority or Board of Management
- On the other hand, a committee means a body ,consisting of certain persons, which is assigned a particular job. such committee mostly supervise and advise the librarian in matters in which public participation is essential

## DEFINITION

**L.M.Harrod** defined a library committee as “the committee responsible for the provision of a library service”. A governing body of a library is also known by different names like “Library Committee”, “Library Board”, “Board of Director”, “Library Trustees” and “Advisory Committee”. In India, such a governing body is commonly called a Library Committee. Hence, these terms are used here interchangeably. It is one of the executive authorities.

## LIBRARY AUTHORITY

- Authority Is a power which has some important rights and power to controlling all the activities of an institution.
- Library authority is a most powerful. It can be a person or group of persons in the library.



### CHARACTERISTICS OF LIBRARY AUTHORITY

- Use of power
- Impressive personality
- Experience and knowledgeable person
- Impress to library personal
- Expectation from library personnel
- Scope of authority

### FUNCTIONS OF LIBRARY AUTHORITY

- Direction
- Controlling
- Decision making
- Make a coordination between personnel's
- Distribution of rights and responsibilities.
- Motivate to library staff

### Library committee

Library committee consist some selected members who are responsible for the progress of institution and making a well plan and policy for the development of library.



### NEED OF LIBRARY COMMITTEE

- To make a policy for the library development
- To lack of control
- To lack of efficiency in the decision making
- To development of library
- To achieve the library aims
- To need of financial aspects
- To create coordination between income and expenditure

### POWER AND FUNCTIONS OF LIBRARY COMMITTEE

**Wilson and Tauber** observe that the library committee of a university should be representative of the university; its members should be chosen for their interest in the development of the resources and services of the library; and its functions should be informative and advisory.

- “normally, it has few powers, as it is intended to serve in an advisory rather than in an administrative capacity.”

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**Krishan Kumar** states that “A library committee mostly

- supervises and advises
- merely advises the librarian in those matters where public participation may prove to be useful. It is desirable that it should be advisory in nature and not to perform administrative functions.... Library committee should restrict itself to general policy and not with specific applications

**POWERS LIKE**

- Selection of library personnel's
- Decide the policy and aims of library
- Creation of rules for well organize
- Direction for annual reports
- Security of library properties
- select proper books, periodicals and other information records relevant and
- useful to the user community; accept gifts and donations for the library;

**RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE LIBRARIAN TOWARD LIBRARY COMMITTEE**

- Suggestions for policy making
- Apply all the policy and plan created by library committee
- Suggest for selection of library personnel
- Suggest for creating annual budget of library according to requirement.

**WHY A COMMITTEE GOVERNMENT**

- The librarian alone cannot bear the heavy burden of governing, policymaking and managing a library.
- The administrative and policy issues are to be shared by some more Persons In order to lower the burden of the librarian and smoothening the library works.

**NEED**

- Serves as a buffer agency between the library authority and the librarian;
- Serves as an interpreter of the requirements of the library to the community and Authorities and to plead for more funds;
- Assesses the financial support required by the library as per library standards;
- Extends support to the librarian to defend important decisions having implications For the users;

**CONT...**

- Ensures better understanding between the library policy and the users;
- Keeps the librarian on alert since it will also act as a watch dog of library activities; and
- In some cases, it takes up the job of recruiting efficient librarian for the organisation.

**Types****1. Executive committee:**

Executive committee enjoys the powers delegated to it and it need not report each and every action to the library authority. Within the framework of the policy and objectives prescribed For it, it has the freedom to act on its own. It can also appoint sub committees to execute or advise on its functions. Such Committee is sometimes known as Management Committee.

**2. Self-Perpetuation Committee**

This is a committee that is created under the provisions of a statute. Its constitution, powers and functions are Provided for in the Act itself. It has got the power to control and manage the library that has to work under its authority. It is the final authority.

**3. Reporting committee:**

It has got powers to decide the policies within certain limits and its decisions do not require confirmation of the supreme authority but are simply reported to the authority for its information.

**4. Recommending Committee**

This type of committee has no real power. It can only recommend certain proposals or actions and it is for the authority to accept them and act upon them.

**5. Adhoc committee:**

It is a special committee for the supervision and control of libraries. This committee is or less independent, this committee is also called statutory committee. It takes decisions expeditiously. It can co-opt men of intellect and foresight. Such a committee may also mean a special committee for performing a special job.

**6. Sub-Committee**

To help the process of management sub-committees consisting of few members are appointed. Members of Sub-committees are persons with knowledge, Experience and foresight. They help to clear the work within the stipulated time. Reports of the Sub-committees are submitted to the library committee for discussion and final decision. Generally they are appointed to look after specific problems like book selection, maintenance, marketing services and resource generation, etc.